

THE POLICE NEWS

Burglary suspect admits open-door crime when confronted by LPPD

La Porte Police Department
Media Relations Information
Public Relations Officer – Sgt. John Krueger



June 9th, 2014

La Porte Police Officers recently responded to the 9800 block of Rustic Gate in reference to the theft of a dirt bike, which was believed to have occurred sometime before 10:00 p.m. on the evening of June 4th. However, in the end, vigilant neighbors and a meticulous homeowner were able to identify a local juvenile who, later discovered, had also entered the kitchen of the home while the residents were inside asleep.

Initial information provided to police was that a suspect had apparently entered a garage attached to the residence. The garage was left open for the evening and, as the homeowner awoke from a nap on the couch, went to secure the garage door for the night. Once in the garage, the homeowner noticed a few items were shifted around from their normal position. The homeowner quickly discovered the disturbed items had been moved in an apparent effort to extract a Baja dirt bike. A police report was made and a follow-up investigation began. Fortunately, just a day later, an arrest of the suspect was made.

During the afternoon following the crime, neighbors in the subdivision swapped stories of a local boy they had seen loitering around the residence where the dirt bike had been stolen. In addition, the victim noticed that a purse on the kitchen counter had apparently been rummaged through and that a cigarette was missing as well. Police were contacted with the new information and met with the juvenile suspect and his father. Shortly after being confronted, the juvenile acknowledged his having taken the dirt bike and entering the residence as the homeowner slept. The juvenile has since been charged with Burglary of a Habitation, a felony-level offense.

LPPD urges residents to close and lock all doors and windows when leaving an item or area unattended. While local crime rates remain lower than the majority of the greater-Harris County area, year-after-year La Porte's annual crime statistics reveal most residential, commercial, and vehicular burglaries involve unlocked and/or open doors. This simple step of prevention may protect you or someone you know from being a victim.

